Mr. I. N. Menon.—Copy of the instructions given by the Director is placed on the table. (*Appendix VII*).

102. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table copies of the reports thus far furnished by the officers engaged in field-work in the Educational Survey?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The final report is only being compiled. The interim reports made by the Inspecting Officers to the Director of Public Instruction are confidential and cannot therefore be placed on the Council table at this stage.

Sufficiency of the existing number of Schools.

103. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

1. whether they consider the existing number of schools in the State are more than sufficient to meet the educational needs of the State;

2. if so, what is the data on which such conclusion has been based?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—1. Government have not yet received the report on the Educational Survey and they are therefore not in a position to express an opinion.

2. In view of the answer to (1), this question does not arise.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know whether the statement in the Administration Report for 1106 is correct? On page 35 it is said that the existing number of schools in the State are more than sufficient to meet the educational needs of the State. May I know whether that statement in the Administration Report is correct?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The Administration Report was written at the end of last year, that is, long before the Educational Survey got in full swing and it also represents the opinion of the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know whether there was any data to come to that conclusion?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The data will be seen from the appendix to these questions and the answers given to some other questions. For instance, in Trichur we take the population and find the number of schools more than adequate. That was how we proceeded with.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know, though there may be locally a large number of schools, taking the whole State together, whether the statement, that the existing number of schools is considered more than sufficient, is justifiable?

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